UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE United States Patent and Trademark Office Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/920,467	08/01/2001	Michael L. Blomquist	9015.135USI1	5608
23552 7590 08/16/2010 MERCHANT & GOULD PC P.O. BOX 2903			EXAMINER	
			KOPPIKAR, VIVEK D	
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-0903			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
		3686	3686	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/16/2010	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Application: 09/920,467 Paper No. 20100813

Art Unit: 3686 Page 1

OFFICE ACTION

Previous Holding of Abandonment Withdrawn

- 1. The last Office action, mailed July 27, 2010, held that applicant's application was abandoned for failure to file any reply to the Office action of January 29, 2010. However, the Office action of January 29, 2010 was merely an Advisory Action, which did not set any time period for reply, therefore no reply thereto was required.
- 2. Furthermore, the Advisory Action of January 29, 2010 was itself improper, because the amendment it sought to address, filed on January 25, 2010, was not an after-final amendment, but a regular amendment, timely filed in response to the non-final rejection of July 24, 2009.
- 3. Therefore the holdings of the Notice of Abandonment of July 27, 2010 and the Advisory Action of January 29, 2010 are hereby withdrawn/vacated, and applicant's amendment/response of January 25, 2010, in reply to the non-final rejection of July 24, 2009, has been entered.
- 4. The application has been forwarded to the examiner for an Office action responsive to applicant's reply of January 25, 2010, and no further response is due from applicant at this time.

Application: 09/920,467 Paper No. 20100813

Art Unit: 3686 Page 2

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to the art unit supervisor, **Jerry O'Connor**, whose telephone number is **(571) 272-6787**, and whose facsimile number is **(571) 273-6787**.

GJOC August 13, 2010

> /Gerald J. O'Connor/ Supervisory Patent Examiner Group Art Unit 3686